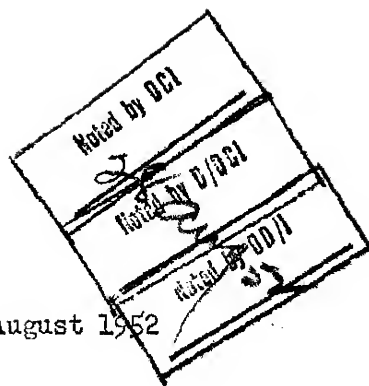


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Security Information



27 August 1952

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR OF CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE

SUBJECT: NIE-35/2: Probable Developments in Indochina through
Mid-1953

1. Agency representatives indicated no points on which they expected to dissent from the estimate.
2. For your background information, during the consideration of earlier drafts of the estimate there was minor divergence on two points of substance:
 - a. What is the present attitude of France toward maintaining its position in Indochina? State has in the past been more inclined than the other agencies to take the line that French determination to hold on in Indochina is in no danger of weakening. However, State has expressed itself as satisfied with the description of the French attitude in paragraphs 1, 2, and 3 of the conclusions and 14, 15, and 16 of the discussion.
 - b. What effect would a Korean cease-fire agreement have on Chinese Communist intentions toward Indochina? The Air Force expressed some hesitancy concerning the estimate made on this question in paragraph 4 of the conclusions and paragraph 20 of the discussion. The other agencies contended that the arguments in 20 a and b would retain their validity for the period of this estimate, and the Air Force appeared willing to concur in this opinion.

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SHERMAN KENT
Assistant Director
National Estimates

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